

**Glenda Wiles**

**From:** WAYNE DRAKE [wayneandjeridrake@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 15, 2007 10:01 AM  
**To:** Glenda Wiles  
**Subject:** Walmart

I understand Walmart is considering one or more sites south of Hamilton. You all are in a unique position now to create regulation that could possibly block Walmart since they allowed their previous permit to expire.

I have a short story to tell you. Every summer for the past 10 years my family & I have gone to Wallace, Idaho for a month. Wallace has one small grocery store and it has always been moderately

busy. This summer we noticed the store was not busy, very few shoppers, empty parking lot, etc.

I asked a friend what was going on. He said Walmart put in a Supercenter 15 miles from Wallace (just the other side of Kellogg) and since then the local grocery was barely surviving - he also said

the one and only drugstore was barely keeping the doors open. This is what we know will happen in Hamilton if Walmart goes in. We will likely lose 2 grocery stores & at least 2 pharmacy's.

Also, did you know that when someone is hired by Walmart at the low end of the pay scale they are

automatically given info re: where to apply for food stamps & medicaid?

Please take advantage of the opportunity you now have to protect our local business folks who have

always been there for us. It will be too late after they are in the door & and in a few years our downtown becomes an arena of empty stores.

Concerned citizen,  
Jeri Drake

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**OCT 15 2007**

**Ravalli County Commissioners**

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